

## Reasons to Vote YES on Measure D on the June 5 Ballot



The Oakland Public Library is currently operating at a \$1.9M deficit for the rest of this two-year budget cycle, and that can't go on. If Measure D does not pass, the OPL will be forced to lose staff and cut hours.

To address the deficit, the OPL would have to cut roughly 100 hours out of its current 644 hours/week of library service and would have to eliminate 23 FTE (full time equivalent) positions from library staff.

Measure D is carefully crafted to keep the good and avoid the bad. Measure D will include exemptions from the parcel tax for low income seniors and very low-income households. It will sunset after 20 years. It will be subject to an oversight committee and to ongoing audits. All **funding** has been specifically designated for library services and cannot be used for anything else. See Article 1, Section 3 of the Full Text of Measure D in your Voter Information Guide.

Details are clearly spelled out on <https://www.protectoaklandlibraries.org/> and [https://www.protectoaklandlibraries.org/what\\_is\\_measure\\_d](https://www.protectoaklandlibraries.org/what_is_measure_d)

### Why vote for this new parcel tax?

The neighborhood branches in the OPL system provide programs and services for seniors, safe spaces for teens and children after school, early childhood and youth reading programs. Remember that more than 30 per cent of Oakland public schools have no library or school librarian. That's at least 10,000 students whose only library experience comes from OPL.

Our libraries help residents find **jobs**, secure housing, receive free legal and tax advice, and obtain free literacy services and access to the Internet.

OPL cannot keep that up without a secure, dependable source of **funding**. A YES vote for Measure D is a vote for ourselves: a vote for the **health** of our whole community.

### Volunteers are needed!

If you can help in the campaign to inform voters, let us know by sending an email to [contact@fopabl.org](mailto:contact@fopabl.org).

### Important Dates:

Last day to register to vote in this election: May 21

Last day to request a "vote by mail" ballot: May 29

ELECTION day: June 5

**Please vote YES on Measure D!**

## It's Not Your Grandma's Library



We live in an e-world with i-devices. We have iPads and e-readers, tablets and laptops. And our library is the place to get the most out of all of them.

It's not uncommon for patrons, before they leave for vacation or a long flight, to bring their smart phones, iPads or other portable devices to the library and load it up with reading material that will be readily accessible without taking up space and adding weight to the carry-on.

Traveling to a foreign country? You can become familiar with the appropriate language by loading lessons on your I-phone or laptop. And when you get there, the e-maps will help you find your way around.

Having trouble with your e-book? Make an appointment with a librarian, bring your device to the meeting and one of them or a volunteer will help you solve the problem.

Books printed on paper? Our library has those too. Is someone in your family planning to take the SAT or GRE? Check out a book of practice tests. Want to know about your body or pass on sensitive information to a teenager? The *Teenage Body Book* might help. Or the *Sex Book for Teens*. If what you want isn't on the shelf or available electronically, one of the librarians can no doubt find it in the system and have it for you within a few days.

The Piedmont Avenue library is a treasure trove of information on just about any subject you can mention, and our librarians and our knowledgeable volunteers are there as guides and assistants – they'll help you take full advantage of all of it.

And better yet, this amazing neighborhood resource is a within walking distance of nearly everyone reading this.



### **The Book Worm Recommends**

#### ***Hippie Food***

**by Jonathan Kauffman**

Jonathan Kauffman's "Hippie Food" is one of those books that turns out better than expected. When I first saw the title, I thought, okay, hippie food: brown rice and tofu. How much can you say about that?

Kauffman does tell us some about brown rice and tofu – making it sounding almost tasty at times – but the draw of this book is the cultural history of modern America via the kitchen.

The focus is certainly not exclusively on hippies – not nearly. Kaufman starts us off back in the 1920s with wacko food philosophies like the "Mucusless Diet Healing System." Can't say that

sounded very appetizing. Then we spend time in Southern California with a variety of health food crusaders, including Gypsy Boots and The Nature Boys, taking us through the '40s and '50s. By the time we get to the '60s we're ready for the Macrobiotic Diet, some versions of which were limited to brown rice and nothing but brown rice. Soon there's influence from the Far East, introducing miso, tamari, rice cakes, and talk of balancing yin and yang.

Finally we get to the 1970s with a chapter titled "Brown Bread and the Pursuit of Wholesomeness." Now we are in the land of the hippie, with the Haight-Ashbury, the Diggers, the Mime Troupe and the Summer of Love. Things start to get political with "Diet for a Small Planet" published in 1971, food co-ops and social revolutionaries active across the country.

Kaufman weaves all these movements together with stories of individuals and groups – the Chico-San company in Chico persuading farmers to grow brown rice, back-to-the-landers in Vermont, food co-ops in Austin and Minneapolis – showing how each movement was related to what came before, and how each reflected what was going on in our country at the time.

By the end we can see how the mucusless diet, Gypsy Boots, the Diggers in the Haight, and the food co-ops in Minneapolis are somehow related to those wonderful artisanal cheese makers up in Sonoma County.

Try reading it with a glass of good red wine.

*This review is by Peter Sownie who was one of the founding members of the Peoples Food System in the Bay Area which included Left Wing Poultry, Red Star Cheese & Veritable Vegetable.*

## What's Happening at the Library

### Ongoing Events

Wednesdays at 10:15am – **Toddler Storytime**

Wednesdays at 11:00am – **Pre-School Storytime**

Fridays at 3:30pm – **Lego Mania is now called Build Fridays**

Saturdays at 10:30am – **Baby Café**

Saturdays at 2:30pm – **eBook Help**

Starting June 9<sup>th</sup> – **Kids Summer Reading!**

**Thursday June 14 at 3pm – Insect Discovery Lab**

**Thursday June 28 at 3pm – Circus of Smiles Workshop**



### Events in May & June

**Saturday May 19 at 1 pm – Berkeley Rep Docent Talks About *Angels in America Part 2: Perestroika***

This fierce and astounding two-part drama is at once an epic exploration of American politics, gay identity, and mythology, and a personal story of love and loyalty. In today's sociopolitical climate, Tony Kushner's universal message of compassion and inclusion makes *Angels in America* as timely as ever.

**Saturday June 6th at 1 pm – Berkeley Rep Docent Talks About *What the***

***constitution Means to Me***

When Heidi Schreck was in high school she delivered speeches about the Constitution in American Legion Halls all over the country in order to earn money to pay for college. Today the witty Obie Award-winning performer radically reinvents the speech she gave at 15 and discovers the profound effect this document has had on four generations of women in her family. a moving and entertaining show.

**Thursday June 14 at 3:30pm – Teen Pop Up Program**

Perler Beads, craft with Black Panter theme.

**Thursday June 21 at 3pm – East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse**

Artists from the East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse will lead hands-on “eco-art” projects for kids of all ages, using recycled materials. Activities will range from egg carton caterpillars to manila folder masks to handmade journals.

**All these activities and events take place at the [Piedmont Avenue Branch](#)  
80 Echo Avenue, Oakland CA 94611**